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CONCLUSION:

Snyder and McVickar were U.S. intelligence agents planted in the consular section of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. Snyder was identified by the Warren Commission as head of the consular section, when in fact, he was not. Probably the purpose of this myth was either: 1) to take attention off McVickar (for some unexplained reason), or 2) to justify or rationalize the handling of the Oswald case primarily by Snyder and not McVickar. Because both men have been dropped from the Biographic Register, an attempt should be made now to locate them. They could be dead!

1. The Arrangement of the Consular Section. The "Foreign Service List" (FSL) of July, 1970 shows two American officials in the consular section - Snyder and McVickar. Earlier editions of the FSL do not show a breakdown by sections within the Embassy so it is not possible to determine whether the section was normally staffed by 2 or 3 officers. (My guess is two officers). The FSL does not include American Staff employees. Snyder and McVickar, neither of whom know much about consular affairs, had to rely on either knowledgeable U.S. Staff employees (3) (who probably had been in Moscow a long time) or local employees of long standing. In either case, they were well protected from making errors in their consular work.

2. Snyder Was Not McVickar's Boss. The more recent FSL's show a breakdown for each section: political, economic, consular, etc. The Section Chief's name is listed first, and all other names are listed in alphabetic order. Within the Consular Section, McVickar is listed first. There are 3 possible explanations, none of which allows the conclusion that Snyder was Chief:

a. The Chief's position was vacant. This would explain the alphabetic listing of McVickar and Snyder.

b. McVickar was Chief of the Section.

c. Both were the same grade (0-5) and both arrived the same day. Therefore neither had preference. Furthermore, both men were about the same age. (there's 4 years difference in their ages.) There's no possible logical way to identify Snyder as Chief from the FS Listings.

3. Both Snyder and McVickar Were Intelligence Agents. The following "code words" in Snyder's listing in the "Biographic Register" (BR) are typical of identification as CIA, so typical that any experienced Foreign Service Officer would know:

Item	Analysis
U.S. Army 1940-46	Possibly intelligence-note that his tour appears to have begun before and ended after that served by the average inductee.
"Government Service" 1949-1950	No explanation. This is the most common entry in the B.R. for present or past CIA employment.
Middle bury College for Russian language and	

Item	Analysis
Harvard University for Russian Language and Area Studies 1956-1957	The Russian Institute is notorious for its training of cold-warriors - Henry Kissinger is from Harvard.
Intelligence Research Specialist - State Department - 1957-1959	The Bureau of Intelligence and Research (INR) is the home of many CIA types.

S.R.s also show "private experience from 1938 to 1940. While this could be time spent working on a degree (he got his BA from Yale in 1943), I would guess that he was working for U.S. Intelligence (OSS) in Asia.

Snyder has also spent a great deal of time in Japan, before and after the Moscow tour. Could he have been at an "intelligence training facility" where Oswald trained. Would his common experience of having lived in Japan have fostered his closeness to Oswald. Surely he and Oswald would have reminisced about Japan had Oswald really been an "innocent." The whole thing about Oswald was an act.

McVickar's listings in the S.R.s show a similar pattern.

Item	Analysis
Army - Hong Kong Aug. 16....	In what appear to be a typographical error, the years of his assignment are not shown. The Consulate General at Hong Kong has a very large intelligence operation. Its headquarters for Red China intelligence research and operation.

Item	Analysis
International Economist in State Department 1954-57	
International Relations Officer in State Department - 1957	Was this in INR? Probably, as was the economist's position.
Russian language	
Russian language and area training at the Foreign Service Institute - 1957	
Harvard University (Russian Institute) - 1958	
Supervisory Foreign Affairs Officer in the State Department. - 1961	Again, the location of his work within the Department is notindicated. Probably in INR.
"Research Specialist" in the State Department = 1966	This clearly is INR.

Another interestint clue is the entry McVickar put in the 1968 version of the B.R. It is: "PRIV EXPER 47-49" which means non-government employment. This contradicts the earlier entry which indicated he was in the Army during that period.

It's also noteworthy that he had little if any consular experience, unless he picked up some in New Delhi and Hong Kong. But even if he started out with consular work, normal career progression is the economic and political (which may include intelligence) work. His carear followed that path but then abruptly fell back to consular work in Moscow. This simply ain't the way it happens.

4. Have Both Men Been Hidden by the CIA? The B.R.'s stop showing both men. Have they gone underground for the CIA? Or have both been put away. McVickar is first missing from the July, 1969 edition. Snyder is missing from the 1970 edition. If they have "retired" we should know that. It's most crucial that we locate both men now.

5. Other Questions. Both Snyder and McVickar arrived in Moscow the same day, June 28, 1959. Accompanying them was Frank Meehan, a friend of mine. Frank has a similar background in intelligence and Russian training. Their simultaneous arrival is most interesting. Sam Wise, whom I met on the "Independence" sailing to Europe in 1961, was transferred to the Moscow Consular Section on April 4, 1961. But even with his extensive consular training and the fact that he was on U-5, he was not put in charge. Joseph Norbury, an U-5 arrived in Moscow on August 6, 1961 and was immediately put in charge! Jack F. Matlock, also an O-5 arrived October 1, 1961. In the FSL of January, 1963, Matlock and Norbury were moved to the political section (which is frequently used to cover CIA types). Wise was still not promoted. An Ø-4, Thomas A. Fair, arrived on September 2, 1962 and was immediately put in charge. Peter Semler an O-5 arrived on November 11, 1962. Sam Wise did have considerable consular experience (I think) but his background is also heavy with intelligence. BR's show: "PRIV EXPER 195-55," "Oberammergau Russian Language-area studies 7/58," "Department Intelligence research specialist 10/59," US Exhibit in Moscow, 1959, Trieste 4/61 (Trieste

in the Department since 1966.

Matlock has a similar background: "PRIV EXPER translator - editor for magazine 1952-53," instructor in Russian at Dartmorth College in 1953-56 with one unaccounted for year, 1954-55. "Intelligence research analyst in State from 1956 to 1958, attended Oberammergau 8/60 for Russian language (! - when he had already taught Russian himself at Dartmoth). and area studies. All of these people could be CIA but even if some are not, those who were not were in a close enough position to know who was CIA. I'm going to try to talk to Sise and Meehan asap. Meehan is out of the country now but I think Sam Sise is here.

6. Compare Above to Crowley's Background:

Item	Analysis
U.S. Army "overseas" - 1943-45	He was probably in intelligence.
"GOVT EXPER, clk typist, ed clk" - 1953-53	Failure to indicate the agency is most often a sign of CIA employment. Also, would he be a clerk typist with a college degree
"Summary writer" - 1953	Looks like CIA.
"Research specialist, Dept. of Army" - 1953-61	Clearly intelligence. Possibly CIA - the agency uses this type of cover in DoD.
"STATE Dept. GS-11 reg. admin spec" 8/61	Cover for purposes of introduction to new agency.
"Intelligence operations specialist" 11/63	Notice not only intelligence, but operation. He was doing something! Also note date!

The 1966 B.R. has some interesting additions: Mexico City College 1950-51,
1950-51, National University of Mexico, 1951, also: "intell. oper. spec. Nov. 10, 1963."

The 3/61 entry is probably his job with Otto Otepka. But Ottepka told me Crowley moved out of his office in 1962. Where was he until Nov. 10, 1963? This date and the word "operations" are extremely significant. Did they move Crowley into a special operations watch on Nov. 10 for the assassination? I think they did. They used him like they used Oswald.

Crowley and I had talked long ago about his Mexican days. He told me he was an editor for a English language news paper in Mexico City (notice this isn't in his B.R. listings) when he was "recruited" for U.S. Government. service. There are lots of gaps in his biography. The fact that he added Mexico City College and National University of Mexico as late at 1966, shows he was trying to cover up. He was probably planted at those universities by the CIA.

II. <u>Immediate Recommendations:</u>

a. We attempt to locate Snyder and McVickar right away and interview them.

b. We purchase (or otherwise get) copies of the "Foreign Service List" and the "Briographic Registry" covering the period

of June 1959 - Nov. 22, 1963. 1969 and 1970 versions would also be useful to identify"changes."

6. That Meehan be interviewed when he returns from Europe.

d. That Wise be interviewed asap.

e. Get info on Oberammergau.

All in all, it makes sense to stack the Consular Section of the Moscow Embassy with CIA types. Officers have a chance to talk to Russians. It's a good place for "cover" since there is little consular work to do. And not all CIA types should be or could be hidden in the political section. It's also ideal because that's where U.S. citizen defectors would go - either to renounce citizenship, to get a passport renewal, to obtain a visa for a Russian wife, and to receive messages from relatives inthe U.S. What better place to locate Oswald's contacts? He couldn't very well report to someone in the political section. Neither can Russian citizens very well meet their contacts anywhere else in the Embassy (except possibly for the commercial section.)